

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

**1. (currently amended)** A virtual space control method, comprising the steps of:  
changing ~~a direction~~ an orientation of a prescribed part of a virtual character in a virtual space; and  
~~changing a screen image moving a fixation point in the virtual space~~ in response to the change in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part, wherein the screen image represents a virtual field of view defined by a viewpoint other than a viewpoint of the virtual character.

**2. (currently amended)** The virtual space control method according to claim 1, wherein  
the step of changing ~~a direction~~ the orientation of the prescribed part includes the ~~has a~~ step of changing ~~an~~ the orientation of a head of the virtual character as the change in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part, and  
the step of changing the screen image includes the ~~moving a fixation point~~ has a step of ~~moving the fixation point~~ changing the viewpoint defining the virtual field of view in response to the change in orientation of the head of the virtual character.

**3. (currently amended)** The virtual space control method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
receiving a operation command input from the virtual character, ~~and~~

wherein the step of changing the orientation includes ~~a direction~~ has a step of changing the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part in response to ~~the~~ an operation command input.

**4. (currently amended)** The virtual space control method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

detecting an occurrence of a prescribed event, and

wherein the step of changing ~~a direction~~ the orientation includes ~~has~~ a step of changing the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part in response to the occurrence of the prescribed event.

**5. (currently amended)** The virtual space control method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

moving the virtual character in the virtual space, and

wherein the step of ~~moving a fixation point~~ changing the screen image has a step of ~~moving the fixation point in the virtual space~~ changing the screen image in response to a movement of the virtual character and to the change in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part.

**6. (currently amended)** The virtual space control method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of:

generating a prescribed object in the virtual space only when a ~~the~~ movement of the virtual character occurs, and the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part is changed ~~into~~ in a prescribed ~~direction~~ manner.

**7. (currently amended)** The virtual space control method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

setting target coordinates in the virtual space, ~~and~~

wherein the step of changing ~~a direction~~ has the orientation includes a step of changing the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part of the virtual character toward ~~the direction~~ of the target coordinates.

**8. (currently amended)** The virtual space control method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

setting a limit to ~~a direction~~ an orientation changeable range of the prescribed part of the virtual character.

**9. (currently amended)** The virtual space control method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

causing ~~operation~~ a change in orientation of another part of the virtual character influenced by ~~operation~~ the change in orientation of the prescribed part, the change in orientation of said another part being made in a pre-established prescribed operating proportion to the change in orientation of the prescribed part.

**10. (currently amended)** A computer-readable recording medium having recorded therein a virtual space control program to be executed on a computer, the virtual space control program being configured to execute the steps of comprising:

~~a step of changing a direction~~ an orientation of a prescribed part of a virtual

character in a virtual space; and

~~a step of changing a screen image moving a fixation point in the virtual space in~~  
response to the change in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part, ~~wherein the screen~~  
image represents a virtual field of view defined by a viewpoint other than a viewpoint of  
the virtual character.

**11. (currently amended)** The computer-readable recording medium having  
recorded therein the virtual space control program to be executed on a computer  
according to claim 10, wherein

the step of changing a ~~direction~~ the orientation of the prescribed part includes the  
~~has a step of changing an~~ the orientation of a head of the virtual character as the change  
in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part, and

the step of changing the screen image includes the moving a fixation point has a  
step of ~~moving the fixation point~~ changing the viewpoint defining the virtual field of  
view in response to the change in orientation of the head of the virtual character.

**12. (currently amended)** The computer-readable recording medium having  
recorded therein the virtual space control program to be executed on a computer  
according to claim 10, the virtual space control program being further configured to  
execute the step of comprising:

~~a step of receiving a~~ an operation command input from the virtual character, and

wherein the step of changing a ~~direction~~ the orientation of the prescribed part  
includes ~~has a step of changing the~~ direction orientation of the prescribed part in response  
to the operation command input.

**13. (currently amended)** The computer-readable recording medium having recorded therein the virtual space control program to be executed on a computer according to claim 10, the virtual space control program being further configured to execute the step of comprising:

~~a step of detecting occurrence of a prescribed event, and~~

wherein the step of changing ~~a direction~~ the orientation of the prescribed part ~~includes~~ has a step of changing the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part in response to the occurrence of the prescribed event.

**14. (currently amended)** The computer-readable recording medium having recorded therein the virtual space control program to be executed on a computer according to claim 10, the virtual space control program being further configured to execute the step of comprising:

~~a step of moving the virtual character in the virtual space, and~~

wherein the step of ~~moving a fixation point~~ changing the screen image has a step of ~~moving the fixation point in the virtual space~~ changing the screen image in response to a movement of the virtual character and to the change in direction of the prescribed part.

**15. (currently amended)** The computer-readable recording medium having recorded therein the virtual space control program to be executed on a computer according to claim 14, the virtual space control program being further configured to execute the step of comprising:

~~a step of~~ generating a prescribed object in the virtual space only when a the movement of the virtual character occurs, and the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part is changed ~~into in~~ a prescribed ~~direction~~ manner.

**16. (currently amended)** The computer-readable recording medium having recorded therein the virtual space control program to be executed on a computer according to claim 10, the virtual space control program being further configured to execute the step of comprising:

~~a step of~~ setting target coordinates in the virtual space, ~~and~~

wherein the step of changing ~~a direction~~ has the orientation includes a step of changing the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part of the virtual character toward ~~the direction~~ of the target coordinates.

**17. (currently amended)** The computer-readable recording medium having recorded therein the virtual space control program to be executed on a computer according to claim 10, the virtual space control program being further configured to execute the step of comprising:

~~a step of~~ setting a limit to ~~a direction~~ an orientation changeable range of the prescribed part of the virtual character.

**18. (currently amended)** The computer-readable recording medium having recorded therein the virtual space control program to be executed on a computer according to claim 10, the virtual space control program being further configured to execute the step of comprising:

~~a step of causing operation~~ a change in orientation of another part of the virtual character influenced by ~~operation~~ the change in orientation of the prescribed part, the change in orientation of said another part being made in a pre-established prescribed ~~operating~~ proportion to the change in orientation of the prescribed part.

**19. (currently amended)** A program execution apparatus, that executes a virtual space control program, the virtual space control program ~~comprising~~ being configured to perform the steps of:

~~a step of changing a direction~~ an orientation of a prescribed part of a virtual character in a virtual space; and

~~a step of changing a screen image moving a fixation point in the virtual space~~ in response to the change in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part, wherein the screen image represents a virtual field of view defined by a viewpoint other than a viewpoint of the virtual character.

**20. (currently amended)** The program execution apparatus according to claim 19, wherein

the step of changing ~~a direction~~ the orientation of the prescribed part includes the ~~has a step of changing an~~ the orientation of a head of the virtual character as the change in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part, and

the step of changing the screen image includes the ~~moving a fixation point~~ has a step of moving the fixation point changing the viewpoint defining the virtual field of view in response to the change in orientation of the head of the virtual character.

**21. (currently amended)** The program execution apparatus according to claim 19, the virtual space control program being further configured to perform the step of ~~comprising:~~

~~a step of~~ receiving a operation command input from the virtual character, ~~and~~  
wherein the step of changing the orientation includes ~~a direction~~ has a step of changing the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part in response to ~~the~~ an operation command input.

**22. (currently amended)** The program execution apparatus according to claim 19, the virtual space control program being further configured to perform the step of ~~comprising:~~

~~a step of~~ detecting an occurrence of a prescribed event, ~~and~~  
wherein the step of changing ~~a direction~~ has the orientation includes a step of changing the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part in response to the occurrence of the prescribed event.

**23. (currently amended)** The program execution apparatus according to claim 19, the virtual space control program being further configured to perform the step of ~~comprising:~~

~~a step of~~ moving the virtual character in the virtual space, ~~and~~  
wherein the step of ~~moving a fixation point~~ changing the screen image has a step of ~~moving the fixation point in the virtual space~~ changing the screen image in response to a movement of the virtual character and to the change in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part.



**24. (currently amended)** The program execution apparatus according to claim 23, the virtual space control program being further configured to perform the step of comprising:

~~a step of~~ generating a prescribed object in the virtual space only when a the movement of the virtual character occurs, and the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part is changed ~~into~~ in a prescribed manner ~~direction~~.

**25. (currently amended)** The program execution apparatus according to claim 19, the virtual space control program being further configured to perform the step of comprising:

~~a step of~~ setting target coordinates in the virtual space, ~~and~~  
wherein the step of changing ~~a direction~~ has the orientation includes a step of changing the ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part of the virtual character toward ~~the direction of~~ the target coordinates.

**26. (currently amended)** The program execution apparatus according to claim 19, the virtual space control program being further configured to perform the step of comprising:

~~a step of~~ setting a limit to ~~a direction~~ an orientation changeable range of the prescribed part of the virtual character.

**27. (currently amended)** The program execution apparatus according to claim 19, the virtual space control program being further configured to perform the step of

comprising:

~~a step of causing operation~~ a change in orientation of another part of the virtual character influenced by ~~operation~~ the change in orientation of the prescribed part, the change in orientation of said another part being made in a pre-established prescribed ~~operating~~ proportion to the change in orientation of the prescribed part.

**28. (currently amended)** A computer, that executes a virtual space control program, the virtual space control program comprising being configure to perform the steps of:

~~a step of changing a direction~~ an orientation of a prescribed part of a virtual character in a virtual space; and

~~a step of changing a screen image moving a fixation point in the virtual space~~ in response to the change in ~~direction~~ orientation of the prescribed part, wherein the screen image represents a virtual field of view defined by a viewpoint other than a viewpoint of the virtual character.